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NRO REVIEW COMPLETED

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Copy 9 of 9

5 December 1963

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Itek Corporation
(Circumstances Surrounding USIB Comment by DNNRO)

1. The writer was informed on 4 December 1963 that Dr. Brockway McMillan before the USIB meeting of 4 December 1963 had observed that Itek was authorized by CIA to advertise the 24" lens manufactured by that company. (The lens is employed in the C Triple Prime camera.)

2. At 1515 this date I directed a telephone call to the DDNRO, Mr. Eugene Kiefer. I informed Mr. Kiefer that several queries had been addressed to me as a consequence of Dr. McMillan's comment before the USIB. I inquired of the DDNRO whether he deemed it appropriate to recontact Dr. McMillan in order to ascertain more detailed information as to what specifically he was referring to when he mentioned that Itek was authorized to publicize the 24" lens.

3. Mr. Kiefer informed me that Dr. McMillan's comment came during the discussion of the desirability of employing the C Triple Prime camera in a U-2 (TACKLE) overflying Communist China. The question was raised as to whether or not the loss of the aircraft under such circumstances would provide significant new information to the ChiComs. During this discussion Dr. McMillan mentioned that since the Itek Corporation had been authorized by CIA to advertise the 24" lens used in the C Triple Prime camera he did not believe, therefore, that if the lens fell into the hands of the ChiComs, it could be considered as a grievous loss.

4. Pursuing the matter with Mr. Kiefer he informed me that he feels sure that Dr. McMillan was referring to our

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authorization to permit Itek to fabricate a 24" lens and employ it as a "shelf item," and to utilize it for the purpose of endeavoring to solicit business.

5. Mr. Kiefer went on to point out that subsequently Mr. McCone directed General Carter to look into this matter and to get the full facts surrounding the authorization granted Itek to break this lens out of the Security control system. Mr. Kiefer also recalled that Mr. McCone expressed the desire that in the future such items should be contained under rigid security controls.

6. I queried Mr. Kiefer as to whether or not any discussion resulted with regard to the sensitivity of the 24" lens, per se.

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Mr. Kiefer stated that no such discussions occurred and he suggested that if, in fact, such was the case he felt that it might well be desired to invite such information to the attention of the Director.

7. In effect, it was Mr. Kiefer's observation that Mr. McMillan's comment before the USIB was merely made for the purpose of intelligently responding to the question as to whether or not the C Triple Prime camera should be used over ChiCom territory.

[REDACTED]
Chief, Security Staff
OSA

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